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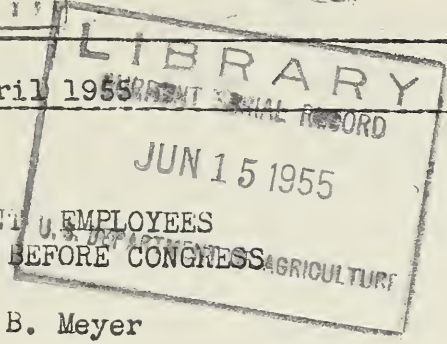
# USDA CLUB NEWS



VOL. VII - No. 2

April 1955

Dallas, Texas



GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES  
BENEFIT BILLS BEFORE CONGRESS

By: R. B. Meyer

During the present session of Congress several bills have been introduced that would provide Government employees with benefits that supposedly offset the increased cost of living.

One of the bills introduced that is of interest to all career and career-conditional employees is a suggested change in the computation of retirement. This bill, if passed, would provide the retired employee a compensation more in line with the present cost of living. There has been discussion of this bill both pro and con, but at the present time a firm prediction could not be made as to whether it will pass or remain on the calendar until Congress adjourns.

Another bill that has received quite a bit of publicity in the newspapers pertains to the pay increase for both the postal and classified employees. The Senate passed a bill raising the salaries of postal employees as well as classified employees by 10%; however, this bill has never been considered by the House of Representatives. The latest information is that the House passed a bill increasing the postal employees' pay by 8.8%, but no action was taken at the time in regard to the classified employee. It appears, from present information available, that some form of pay increase for the postal and classified employees will be passed prior to the adjournment of Congress.

As information is received concerning the pending bills, such information will be passed on to the employees through the medium of the USDA Club News.





## RICE AND US

Rice. Rice. Rice.

That's practically all you've been hearing about lately if you're an employee of CSS. For the rice support price program, now in high gear, is one of the largest recent operations of this office.

And it's an important undertaking, too, for it fits into a broad national pattern of price support to farmers.

Would you like to see how you fit into the picture? Very briefly, here's the story of Rice and USDA and you.

Price Supports might be described as the means by which farmers get a fair price for the products they have to sell. And one way in seeing to this is by setting a floor price under agricultural products. This is done by the Congress. In other words the price support program is to farmers what the minimum wage law is to labor. The price support program sets only a floor price, not a top price. The minimum wage labor law does the same thing. To get this minimum support, farmers put up their products as collateral, the same as you would by putting up your car for a loan. If the loan price at the time of maturity is higher than the market price, farmers can turn their collateral over to CCC as repayment of the loan.

The Price Support Program is administered by the Commodity Stabilization Service of USDA, in turn financed by CCC, the bank of USDA. The Dallas Commodity Office of CSS handles all price support activity on rice, except for that portion produced in the Far West. This year we have come into possession of 25 million hundred weight of rough rice. This is the largest "take-over" of rice ever made by USDA - enough, comments one wag, to supply all the world's weddings for the next thousand years.

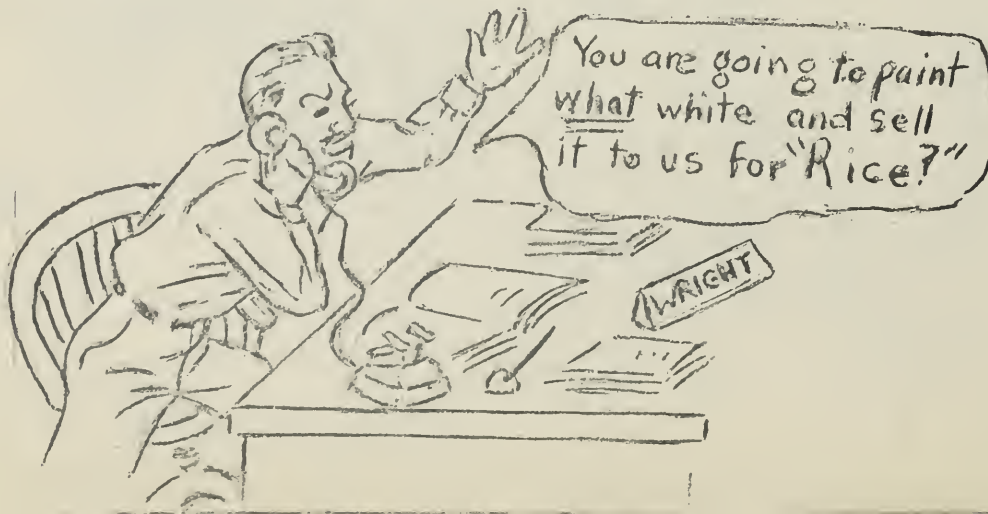
Now we're into the picture. In order to get this rough rice into a form in which it can be sold or used, CCC is selling it to the rice millers of Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana, since CCC owns no rice mills to process it into head (Milled or polished) rice. In fact, CCC wasn't set up to compete with industry in the milling of rice or in the processing of any other agricultural products, for that matter.

The millers are bidding on the rice at competitive prices. They have the option of buying the rough rice and using it for their own purposes, or milling it and selling it to CCC.

And now you are in the picture. When you handle a bill of lading, a freight bill, a warehouse receipt, a sight draft, a loading order, or an invoice, you've become a vital part of an operation which you can rightfully consider to be important and far-reaching.

What happens to the milled rice which the millers are selling back to CCC? In the past, it has been used by community school lunchrooms, needy people here and abroad, sold to the armed forces and friendly foreign countries.

And it wouldn't make anybody unhappy for you to eat some rice at home - or throw at weddings.





## IF...

Just a little word, yet songs have been written around it, volumes of words have been poured around it, and it is almost constantly in our thoughts. "If" I could just play the piano like Liberace.. "If" I could just live like the movie stars. And so far into the night-----.

Truly a dream world into which we enter with each unspoken "if", emerging from its unreality only upon the realistic clang of the alarm clock or the compelling cry of an infant. Where does ambition begin and dreams end? Where is the thin line that separates an attainable goal from the impossible yearning for the stars just beyond our reach and our own abilities?

When "if" creeps in, we are merely engaging in a form of self-criticism and exhibiting discontent with our lot in life. Recognizing that a specific type of discontent is desirable - such as the discontent with household chores that prompted someone to create washing machines, automatic ironers etc., - we also recognize that discontent with ourselves must of necessity be limited to the extent that we are aware that those latent powers we may possess have not been fully utilized or allowed to blossom forth.

"Know Thyself" is a good antidote for impossible day dreaming. The preciseness of the individual should give you an awareness of your own individuality and your true worth in life as you live it each day. Certainly we don't want to stifle ambition or the striving for the

"better" things of life-- "luxuries" that is.

The truth is, that most of us are living in comfortable homes, partake of sufficient food, and are surrounded by a loving family and friends. We also enjoy the freedom that is sadly lacking in other parts of the world. Perhaps true contentment and happiness lies in opening our eyes and recognizing our "top of the ladder" and getting satisfaction out of each rung attained.

There is so much we can give that will live after us and leave our mark, no matter how humble our station in life. We can give hope instead of despair, a friendly nod instead of an icy stare, a helping hand instead of a shove, and the forgiveness that comes from an understanding heart. Dreams© Holland Patterson puts it like this:

Alone,  
Old Henry sits  
before his cabin door,  
And hoards a vast,  
untroubled wealth  
in dreams.

H.N.M.

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"What my conscience dictates to be right and just I will do, be the consequences what they may. I will do that only for which I can answer to my God.....The moment I exchange my conscience, I hope my Maker will no longer suffer me to exist."

These words were spoken by Davy Crockett, famous nowadays as King of the Wild Frontier. The spirit of these words can conquer any frontier, don't you think?

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Husband of Long-time USDA Employee Passes

Jay C. Stilley, husband of Bava Stilley of the Dallas Office of Food Distribution Branch, AMS, passed away unexpectedly April 17, 1955 in a Dallas hospital.

Stilley was a native of Pittsburgh, Pa., but had resided in Dallas since 1936. He was nationally known in the Cotton industry, and his personal friends included many people of the Department of Agriculture in Dallas, Washington, and throughout the country. Stilley was an Infantry Sergeant during World War II and served as a Military Combat correspondent in the European Theater of Operations. In 1945, he was elected Executive Secretary (later Vice-President) of the Texas Cotton Ginners Association and served in that capacity until early in 1955. Stilley twice was appointed an honorary vice-consul of the Mexican Government for his work in behalf of Mexican Nationals employed in Texas cotton fields. He was also an honorary member of the Dallas Cotton Exchange.

His wife, Bava, better known to her many friends as "Bee", has been with USDA in Dallas for nearly fifteen years. The sympathies of all of us are extended to Baa and the family.

(Editor's Note) The editor was privileged to have known Jay Stilley for several years. Jay was one of the most brilliant, generous, and tireless persons I have ever met. The memory of the many accomplishments of Jay Stilley can well serve to hasten the change from the ache of loss into the glow of pride which is ours from having known him.



## Wheat - The Staff of Life

Did you know that wheat is harvested somewhere in the world every month of the year? During June harvest takes place in Southern Europe, Southern Russia and in part of Texas and Oklahoma. In July farmers are gathering wheat in our Mid-West and in southern parts of Europe, Poland, Russia and Turkey.

August brings the wheat harvest in more northerly sections of the United States and parts of Europe. By September more wheat areas of this country and in Southern Canada are sending in their grain, as are Northern Europe and Northern Russia. When October rolls around, wheat harvest is in full swing in Canada and Northern Russia, and by November we have a wheat harvest in Northern Australia, Manchuria, Peru, and in South Africa.

In December and January, which are bleak and cold in this country, wheat is being gathered in New Zealand, Australia, Argentina, Chile and South Africa. February sees the wheat harvest in upper Egypt and India, joined in March by Pakistan.

April watches Cypress, Iran, Mexico Middle America and Syria bringing in their harvests. Finally, May (which is almost too early for much harvesting in Texas except in seasons when the crop is early) brings wheat harvest in Algeria, Morocco, Syria, China and Japan.

Wheat - Staff of Life is indeed its name.

W.H. Wright

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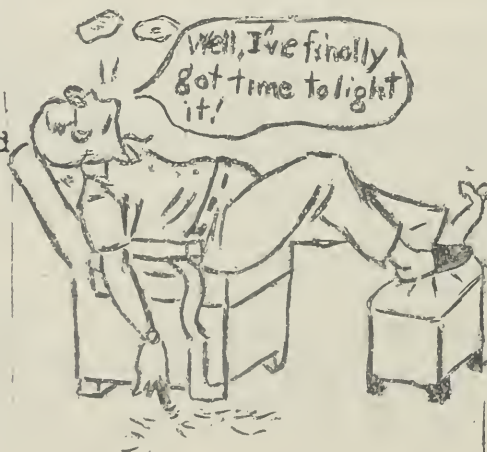
## CSS Worker to Retire

Mr. Harold G. Barnes of Fiscal Division, Commodity Office, reached his 70th birthday on May 7, 1955 and will retire from Federal Service at the end of May.

This fellow Barnes certainly qualifies as a "Character", but the kind of character that all of us should strive to be. To begin with, he could pass for age 55 easily. As to spirit, evenness of temper, and optimistic outlook on life, Harold Barnes has no peer. That a person should ever think of him in relation to a calendar is ludicrous.

Barnes' Federal service covers 18 years and includes WPA, HOLC, WAA, and CSS and its predecessor agencies. To all he brought a brightness, an ever pleasant twinkle of the eye, and a ready smile.

Harold, management will secure someone to do your work. But if they have hopes of your replica as an individual, they had just as well abolish the job.



"I will go anywhere, so long as it is forward."

- David Livingstone

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## OPPORTUNITY

Wynn S. Goode, veteran

USDA worker for Food Distribution Branch (AMS) has just returned to work after spending five months in Lisbon Veterans Hospital, recuperating from a severe and disabling back injury. Wynn is not able to drive his automobile, however, and this has posed quite a transportation problem, and public conveyance does not afford the answer.

Wonder if some of our West Oak Cliff dwellers would consider taking Wynn into their car pool? He works at 1114 Commerce (Santa Fe Bldg.) and lives a short distance from Hampton Road.

If you're not driving now, Wynn will let you use his car and you can become a rider on any mutually agreeable terms. His working hours are from 8:00 to 4:30, five days a week.

A real opportunity for neighborly service can be yours by calling Wynn Goode at Extension 802 or his home, Telephone EDison 2-0616.

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The USDA CLUB NEWS is published monthly by the Dallas USDA Club through the Committee on Correlation and Public Service.

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Katharyn Van Haltern

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Annie B. Carson

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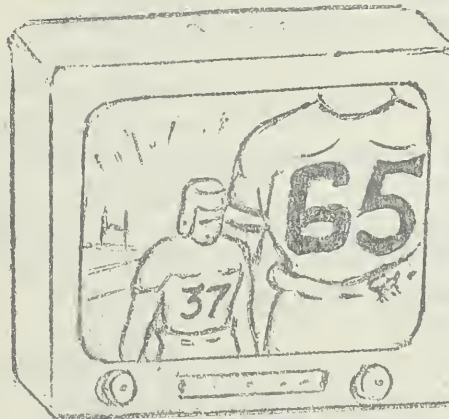


With a quick jump to fall and football, it's nice to see better television fare in prospect. The Texas - Texas Aggie clash is scheduled, as well as Texas - Oklahoma. But those professional games are the tops, and I for one am pulling for Doak Walker to lend his magic once more to the Detroit Lions. If Bingaman retires, though, the screen really won't look the same.

How could I of got him in the boat? He was as long as my foot.



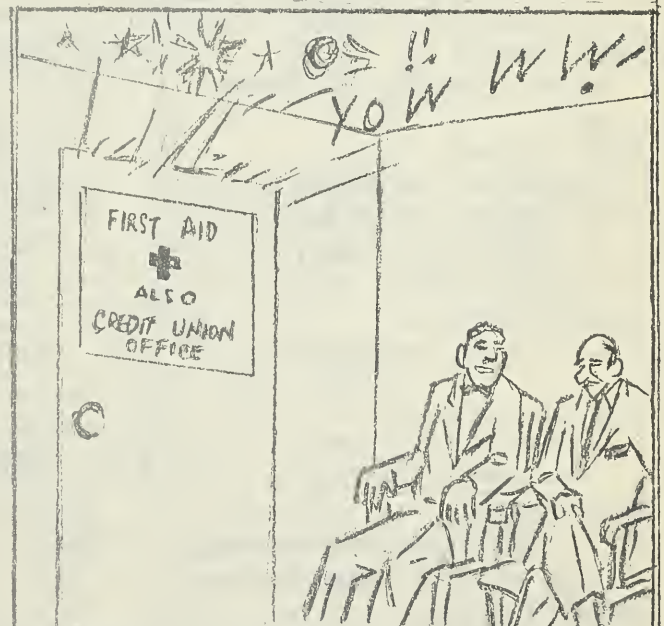
To the devoted few who golf regularly, the return of more daylight affords an opportunity for nine holes after five o'clock in the afternoon. And it costs only four bits, too. How about it, anybody? This sport is much like strong drink - if it gets you, one can't get enough and if it doesn't get one, you couldn't care less. But, oh, to break a hundred just once!



Read somewhere that best all-around fishing in this area is at Possum Kingdom. Lake Whitney is coming fast, though, and Grapevine has the best prospects of all. For real information see Jim Wright, or for fish stories, you can depend on George McPherson and Roy Hutchison.

REMEMBER: You do not have to participate in a sport to be one!

Would you say  
AMEN, brother



WONDER IF SOMEONE'S GETTING FIRST AID OR FINDING OUT THE AMOUNT OF INTEREST DUE ON THEIR LOAN.

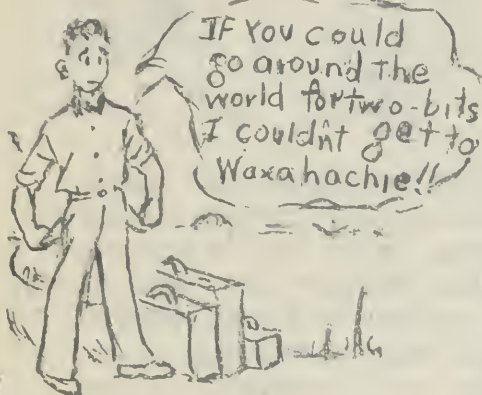


# MOSTLY PERSONAL

(But Not Too Much, We Hope)

-as presented by-

Jerry Davis - Iris McAnally - Katherine Zuccara - Sarah Young  
Yvonne Dillehay - Clara Mae Cannafax - and Jennie Denson -



## Vacationers - Current and Proposed -CSS-

Callie Mae Dudley -

New York in August for her son's wedding.

Katherine Anderson -

Arkansas, Tennessee, and Mississippi currently.

Irma Compton -

The Colonial South in late May and early June.

Neva Russell -

Vernon (that's in Texas, son).

Hugh Ford -

Shade Tree on Santa Clara; the pillow is probably stuffed with money.

## -AUDIT-

Thelma Laney -

New Orleans in April.

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New and/or Recent:

Gene Riddle,

who has had professional ice skating experience.

Juanita Howe,

who has typed at an incredible 145 words per minute.

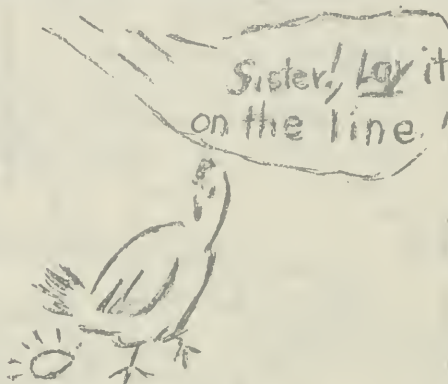
Joy Rogers,

sister of old reliable, Mary Griffin.

## Egg War Threatens:

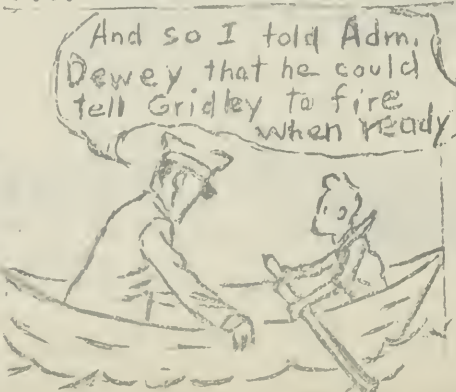
The egg-shell curtain is showing cracks.

Fresh eggs are currently being supplied CSS CO employees by fellow workers Leonard White, Bill Bane, and a chick called Marge Kavanaugh. Kavanaugh, who is in the business only as a no-percent agent for her parents in Wise County, inadvertently cut the price. White and Bane state that Marge may be on the receiving end of some of these products scrambled, if she doesn't join the cartel. What is good for egg producers is good for the whole country, eh, men?

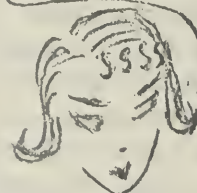


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J.T. (for Tom) Hedgepeth is presently on a short tour of active duty with the U.S. Naval Reserve.



Well, now, Stanley, what we really need is a dress within the reach of the small millionaire!



Juanita Blanton, pert Fiscal worker, is leaving us to become (hold on to your hat - by John Fredrics, naturally) an executive secretary for Mr. H. Stanley Marcus. Mr. Marcus is the president of Neiman-Marcus, a local retail firm of somewhat more than local renown.

Juanita, this is the classiest connection made by USDA since the Federal Reserve System became our banker.

## PAPERWORK PIONEER

Did you know that the very first farm-stored commodity loan ever made by USDA was handled by the affable Arnold Ferguson of Program Operations, Commodity Office? This was in 1938, while he was in Hansford County (Texas) serving in a job similar to what is now a County Agent. Modest Ferguson claims no part of the success which has come to this country-wide operation by the Department. According to Arnold, the papers on that first note may still be out in the County Office being processed.



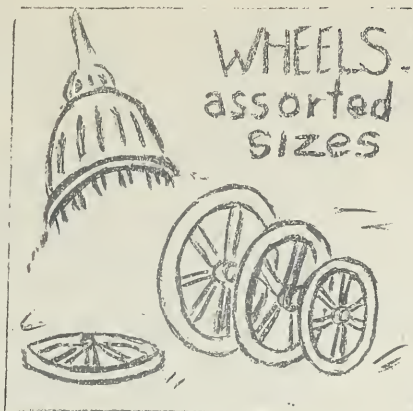
The Gospel as Recorded by  
Dallas Chamber of Commerce

Once upon a time, so the story goes, there dwelt in the barren land of Fort Worth, which has been called the County Seat of Hades, a certain William of Yeager (Field Operations). "Yea, Verily I likest it here in Fort Worth, eventhough my daily bread is earned in that fair Mecca to the East called Dallas. Maybe some day, Dallas will come to Fort Worth like in the story of the mountain coming to Mohammed."

And thus it was for six long years that William of Yeager staunchly retained Fort Worth residence while working in Dallas. Needles to say, his was a constant battle of Tarrant/Dallas County Traffic and the extreme elements, not to mention the drag upon the pocketbook and the early hour for arising. And so it remained until one night a vision appeared to William of Yeager and said "Bill, thou art indeed a square. The kind people of Dallas have considered to make room for thee provided ye repent and mend thine errant ways. Go, and sin no more." Upon awakening, William of Yeager cast from him his sackcloth and ashes and lived happily forever after in the land of milk and honey called Dallas.

(Editor's Note)

Still to be converted from Cow Town residence: Messrs. Pearlle Miller, Dewey Thomas and Irby Rankin. Harken, men, for ye know not when the vision may present to you this golden opportunity for salvation.



Washington Visitors to  
Dallas During April included

R. V. Bailey-  
FI Div, Claims Branch  
Rulon Gibb-  
Treasurer of CCC  
Harry Wirin-  
Ass't. Treasurer of CCC  
Marvin McLain-  
Director Grain Division  
John F. McShea-  
Assistant Director, Audit  
Division  
George Bartlett-  
Director's Staff, Audit  
Division.



A large economy - sized welcome back to Jimmy Hyles former FHA veteran worker and also a midnight oil burner while editor of this here publication.



FOR SALE:

17" Table Model TV (Silver-tone) W/Mahogany turn table. Good buy as second set for the kiddies, \$65.00

AND

Large "Ranger" Portable Water Cooler, W/recirculating water pump, good condition. \$20.00.

Contact Thelma Owens Sta. 841 or TR-8571.

TWO FOR THE HONEY

Mr. and Mrs. Russel A. Vernon are residing in their new home at 1714 Quadrangle Drive, following their wedding on March 15, 1955 and a honeymoon trip to Western Hills Hotel. Mrs. Vernon is the former Marguerite Hawk, who was connected with personnel work in CSS CO for several years prior to her marriage. Mr. Vernon is also a long-time employee of USDA, currently with Dallas CSS CO as Assistant Chief, of Field Operations Division.

Showers have been given for the new bride by Katy Allison, Shep Moberley, Marie Garrison, and Marge Kavanaugh.

Marguerite reports: "The switch to the role of housewife (sometimes jokingly referred to as retirement) is not yet complete. But I have hopes for the day when if someone mentions a Form 57, I'll think they're talking about a product by Heinz Foods."



SEQUEL

Our last issue reported the marriage of our lovely Yvonne Kile to Powell Dillehay. Since then, the following has happened to the lovely bride:

1. Received First and second degree burns in a kitchen stove explosion.
2. Developed a violent allergy to the anti-tetanus shots administered to prevent complications from her burns.
3. Joined the prospective mothers.
4. Nothing else - as yet.

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# NEW AWARDS PROGRAM

## CASH AWARDS FOR IDEAS:

- FOR INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS
- METHOD, PROCEDURE, DEVICE, INVENTION, ETC.
- OUTSIDE JOB REQUIREMENT OR SO OUTSTANDING AS TO MERIT CASH AWARD
- OFFICIAL OR SUPERVISOR MAY RECOMMEND AWARD FOR EMPLOYEE IDEA PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED
- NORMALLY SUBMITTED IN WRITING BY ORIGINATOR

Suggestions are factors in Promotions



SUGGESTION FORMS AT INFORMATION DESK

### Award Scale for Tangible Savings

#### Savings

#### Amount of Award

\$1-\$200 . . . . .	\$10.
\$201-\$1,000 . . . . .	\$10 for the first \$200 in savings and \$5 for each additional \$100 or fraction thereof.
\$1,001-\$10,000 . . . . .	\$50 for the first \$1,000 in savings and \$5 for each additional \$200 or fraction thereof.
\$10,001-\$100,000 . . . . .	\$275 for the first \$10,000 in savings and \$5 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof.
\$100,000 or more . . . . .	\$725 for the first \$100,000 in savings and \$5 for each additional \$5,000 or fraction thereof.

# THINK

(AND GROW RICH)\*

\* If you act.

